crop years 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 are as follows:

Average yield (kgs./hect.)	Price (Rs./kg.)
Upto 44 kgs.	630/-
Above 44 kgs. and upto 52 kgs.	650/-
Above 52 kgs. and upto 60 kgs.	800/-
Above 60 kgs. and upto 80 kgs.	1100/-
Above 80 kgs. and upto 100 kgs.	1200/-
Above 100 kgs.	1400/-

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Inquiry on transfer of copy right by NISCOM

5051. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Office of Prime Minister received letter on 5th November, 2001 from member of Parliament for initiating inquiry regarding foreign exchange received by Asian Health Environment and Allied Database and transfer of copy right to it by NISCOM/CSIR; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE V. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The office of the Prime Minister had received a letter dated 31st October, 2001 from Shri A. Vijaya Raghavan, M.P. in this regard.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Argentina as a model country

5052. SHRIMATI SARALA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) held out Argentina as a model country since the country had followed all IMF prescriptions, privatized all major sectors and banks and pegged its currency on parity with the US Dollar;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Argentina's Economy has become bankrupt leading to violent food riots, massive job cuts, 18.3 per cent growth of unemployment mass protest and volatile political uncertainities in the country; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. We are aware that the Argentinean economy is facing an extremely difficult economic and social situation.

(c) Current situation in Argentina is result of certain decisions of Argentinean authorities like Currency Board Arrangement, fiscal profligacy and adverse international and internal developments which made Argentinean exports lose competitiveness in international markets. India is unlikely to be affected by crisis in Argentina.

Aluminium scam

5053. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:
SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to an appeal by All India Aluminium Secondary Manufacturers and Dealers which appeared in 'Indian Express', dated 17th April, 2002, captioned "Aluminium Scam"; and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto and what corrective steps have been taken or Government propose to take in this regard by bringing the truth to light and the culprits to book?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have, after taking into account all relevant considerations, reduced the basic customs duty on aluminium from 25% to 15% with effect from 1.3.2002.

Double Tax Avoidance Treaty with Mauritius

5054. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether FDI flow will be affected if double tax avoidance treaty with Mauritius is terminated; and